

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET

25X1

25X1A

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia
SUBJECT Piestany Airfield
25X1

REPORT NO.
DATE DISTR. 6 May 1953
NO. OF PAGES 5 25X1A
REQUIREMENT NO.
REFERENCES

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
25X1X (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The Piestany Airfield 4837N-1705E was located at the northwest city limits of Piestany, adjacent to and east of the Bratislava to Zilina railroad tracks, one kilometer west of the Vah River, and 500 m. northeast of the Piestany railroad depot. See Annex A for pinpoint location of the field. The field was rectangular in shape and approximately 1,500 x 500 m. in size. There were no runways, taxi strips, or hardstands on the field. Drainage from the field was natural, and the field was operational the year around. There were buildings on the east side of the field, poplar trees on the west side, small rolling hills to the north, and a residential area to the south. All landings and take-offs were made to the north or south.
2. Planes were parked in front of the hangars and along the east side of the airfield. I saw 24 Arada C-102 single-engine trainers with dual controls, 2 CS-199 single-engine trainers with dual controls used only for ground operation instruction, 1 S-199 single-engine fighter plane (a version of the World War II ME-109) used only for ground operation instruction, 2 Siebel twin-engined light bombers, 2 Trener C-105 single-engine trainers with dual controls used for refresher flight training, and 1 Bity C-106, a single-engine trainer with dual controls used for refresher flight training. Ground operation instruction was given at this airfield for the next phase of cadet training where these types of aircraft would be employed in flight.
3. Light maintenance work was accomplished in the hangars at this field. I saw no POL dumps there; refueling was done by trucks.
4. The officers and enlisted men at the field wore the regular Czechoslovak Air Force gray-blue uniform. Cadets wore the same uniform as that worn by the cadets at Dolny Kubin 4912N-1918E.

SECRET

25X1

STATE	#x	ARMY	#x	NAVY	#x	AIR	#x	FBI	#x	AEC	#x

-2-

5. Guards were posted at various points by the field Annex B., Points 8, 17, and 18. I have no information as to the type of pass required or the methods used in guarding the airfield either day or night.

25X1A

25X1A

ANNEXES A: Pinpoint Location of Piestany Airfield
B: Sketch of Piestany Airfield and Casern

25X1

SECRET

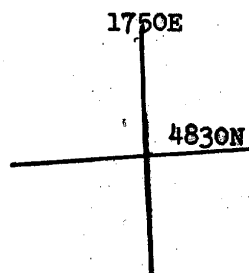
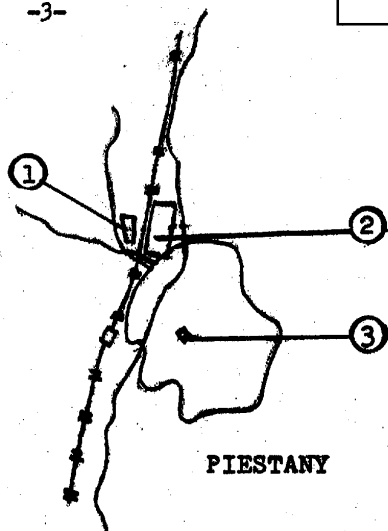
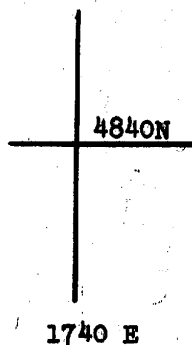
ANNEX A

SECRET

25X1A

25X1

-3-

Legend

1. Piestany Casern
2. Piestany Airfield
3. Garrison Headquarters (Posadkove Velitelstvi). Headquarters building for the Piestany Military Area and contained offices of the Piestany Airfield Commandant, the 3rd Aerial Technical Division (Treti Letecka Technicka Divise), the Political Department of the Piestany Military Area, No. 30 Garrison Administration (#30 Posadkova Sprava) and the administrative offices of the Military Area. [redacted] Air Force officers, of rank up to and including colonel, around this building. It was a three-story light brown stucco brick or stone building.

Pinpoint Location of Piestany Airfield
Overlay of Middle Danube, Sheet W-2, Trnava

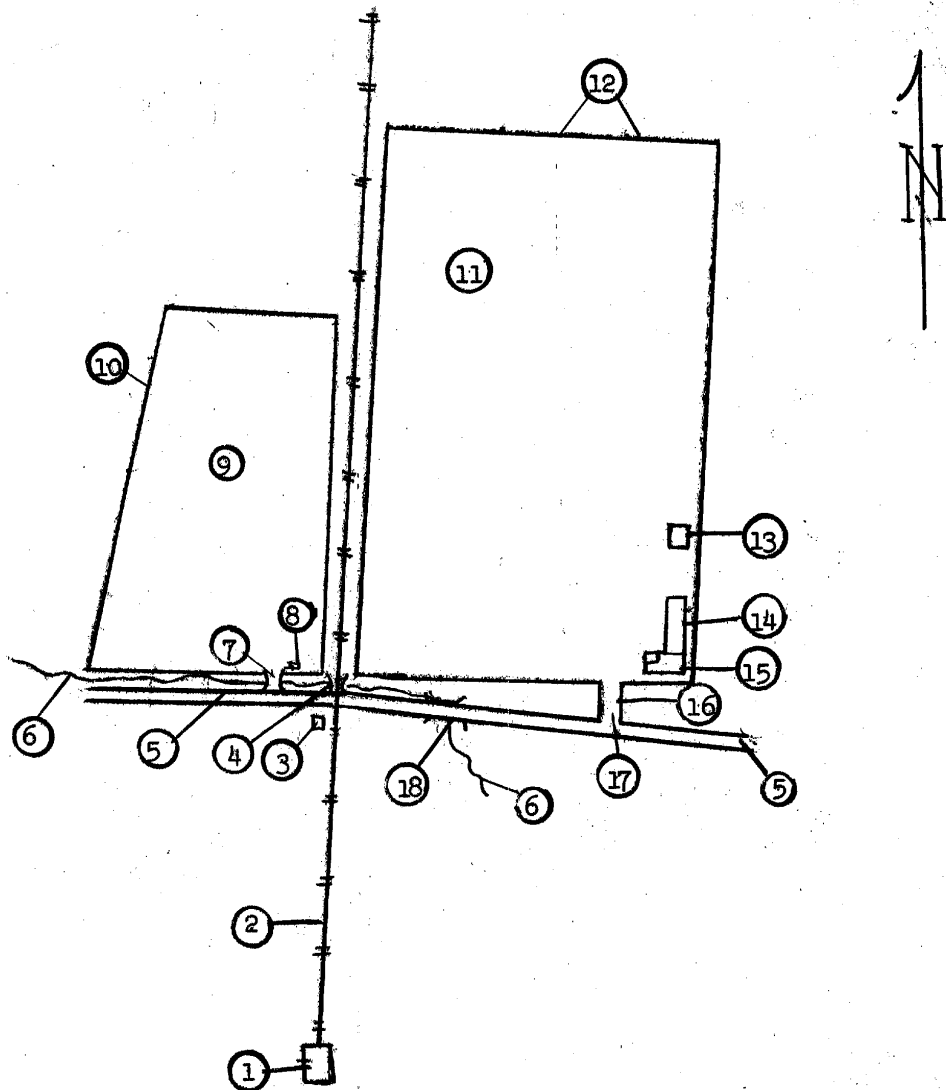
Scale: 1:100,000

SECRET

ANNEX B

SECRET

25X1



25X1

25X1

Sketch of Piestany Airfield and Casern

SECRET

Legend

- 25X1 1. Piestany Railroad Depot. Two story, light brown stucco brick or stone building, approximately 20 x 10 x 12 m., hip roof. A passenger and freight depot. 25X1
2. Railroad. Bratislava to Zilina. Normal gauge, multiple track.
3. Railroad Control Tower. Two story, light brown stucco brick or stone building, 10 x 7 x 8 m., shed type roof. It controlled the railroad gate and rail traffic.
4. Railroad Bridge. Reinforced concrete, 15 m. long, 7 m. wide, spanned the unnamed stream /Point #6/
5. Road. Piestany to Velke Orviste, dirt, four meters wide.
6. Stream. Shallow, unnamed, three meters wide.
7. Bridge and Entrance. Reinforced concrete, seven by five meters, spanned stream /Point #6/.
8. Guard Shack. Wooden, three by two by two meters, tar-papered shed roof. Two Air Force guards armed with submachine guns (CZ Model 23), guarded the entrance to the casern.
9. Piestany Casern. Area approximately 600 x 400 m. The casern contained personnel of the 3rd Aerial Technical Division as well as cadets, instructors, and permanent party personnel. The Aerial Technical Division supplied the training commands of the Air Force and issued Air Force vehicles, aircraft, gas, oil, parachutes, uniforms, and other miscellaneous supplies.
10. Perimeter Fence. Steel mesh, 3 mm. gauge, 2 m. high, fastened to cement posts 15 x 15 cm. x 2 m., spaced at approximately 6 m. intervals.
11. Piestany Airfield. Grass-covered, flat, but slightly lower at the south end. Utilized for the third phase of aviation cadet training. 25X1A [redacted] Cadets received dual and solo practice flying in the Arada C-102 and taxi training in the CS-199 (World War II ME-109). Two Trener C-105 and one Bkr C-106 were utilized for refresher training by cadets.
12. Bunkers. Two circular, reinforced concrete domes, 4 m. in diameter and 50 cm. above ground, presumably utilized as AAA bunkers with open slots at top center for AAA guns and side openings for small arms. /For further information on these AAA guns, [redacted] 25X1A
13. Radio Station. One story, light brown stucco brick, 12 x 10 x 6 m., gray Eternit gable roof. [redacted] that it was a radio station. No outside antenna was visible. 25X1
14. Hangar. One story, light brown stucco brick, 70 x 40 x 12 m., dark gray, tin barrel shell type roof.
15. Hangar. One story, light brown stucco brick, 60 x 40 x 12 m., dark gray, tin shed type roof, with control tower on top 5 m. square and 17 m. high from ground level. The tower roof was flat. All sides of the tower, 14 m. from the ground and up, were glass.
16. Entrance Road. Dirt, 50 m. long, 4 m. wide.
17. Road Barrier. Railroad type barrier gate operated and guarded by Air Force guard armed with a CZ model 23 submachine gun.
18. Bridge. Reinforced concrete, 10 m. long and 5 m. wide.

SECRET